

COMPARISON OF INDEPENDENT NORTH AND SOUTH KOREAN CAPABILITIES

- I. The Republic of Korea army is approximately twice the total strength numerically of the North Korean Army, yet in combat elements the two armies are approximately equal.
 - A. In available fire support weapons, the Republic of Korea army is weaker than the North Korean Army. (Tanks and self-propelled guns, medium artillery, heavy mortars and AAA guns.)
 - B. The ROK is stronger in light artillery pieces and in light mortars.
 - C. North Korea could use AAA as artillery.
- II. North Korea is far superior in air power.
 - A. The South Korean Air Force, equipped with obsolescent aircraft would be rendered ineffective in the first few days of conflict.
 - B. This would leave South Korea subject to air attack and with no air defense.
- III. Manpower in North Korea is critical as compared with South Korea.
- IV. North Korea has advantage from logistical standpoint.
 - A. The land-line of supply in North Korea requires less personnel to operate than the water-line of supply serving South Korea.
 - B. The Communists could continue covert supply without detection.

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V. North Korea would win an independent struggle if no foreign powers intervened.

A. Air superiority and covert logistical capabilities would be decisive.